



THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT PROGRAMS

OVW | Established under the Violence Against Women Act, the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) provides federal leadership to reduce violence against women, and to administer justice for and strengthen services to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This is accomplished by developing and supporting the capacity of state, local, tribal, and non-profit entities involved in responding to violence against women.

WEB LINKS | STOP Grant Program and State Coalitions

OVW Recovery Act Website

www.ovw.usdoj.gov/recovery.htm

OVW Recovery Act Information for Applicants

www.ovw.usdoj.gov/recovery-applicants.htm

Recovery Act State Allocations:

<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/recovery-grants-awards.htm>

State Administering Agencies Contacts:

http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/admin_contact_list.pdf

STOP Program FAQs:

http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/FAQ_FINAL_nov_21_07.pdf

Eligible State Coalitions:

<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/statedomestic.htm>

<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/statesexual.htm>

Grants Management System

<https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov>

OVW Recovery Act Programs At A Glance

STOP Formula Grants to States | \$140 Million

State Coalitions Program | \$8.75 Million

Transitional Housing Program | \$43 Million

Tribal Governments Program | \$20.9 Million

Tribal Coalitions Program | \$2.8 Million

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act), an extraordinary plan to invigorate our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and address the infrastructure needs of our country and economy to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The Recovery Act invests in the President and the Attorney General's priority to protect the most vulnerable and victimized by providing \$225 million to the Office on Violence Against Women for five of its existing programs.

STOP Formula Grant Program

The Recovery Act provides \$140 Million to *Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors Formula Grant Program (STOP Program)* to promote a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhance services and advocacy to victims, improve the criminal justice system's response, and promote effective law enforcement, prosecution, and judicial strategies to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Under the STOP Program, each state, territory, and the District of Columbia receives a base award of \$600,000 and a portion of the remaining funds in amounts determined by the size of the states' population, excluding tribes. Applicants are limited to U.S. states and territories.

Thirty percent of funds must be allocated to victim services programs, 25% to law enforcement, 25% to prosecution, and five percent to courts. The remaining 15% may be allocated at the state's discretion.

STOP Certification Requirements

To be eligible for funds, states and territories **must** certify that they are in compliance with the statutory eligibility requirements of the Recovery Act STOP Program. The *Certification of Compliance with the Statutory Eligibility Requirements of the Violence Against Women Act (as Amended)* form (www.ovw.usdoj.gov/recovery-applicants.htm), must be signed and submitted annually by the Authorized Representative to demonstrate compliance with these requirements. States must certify they: 1) do not charge victims for certain costs related to criminal charges or protection orders; 2) do not charge for forensic medical examinations for victims of sexual assault and do not require victim cooperation in order to receive a free forensic sexual assault examination; 3) comply with judicial notification requirements regarding firearms; and 4) prohibit polygraph testing of victims.

Match Waiver

A grant made under this program may not cover more than 75 percent of the total costs of the project being funded. The applicant must identify the source of the 25 percent non-Federal portion of the budget and how match funds will be used. Applicants may satisfy the required match with either cash or in-kind services.

The Violence Against Women Act of 2005, as amended, created a new provision eliminating match in certain circumstances and providing match waivers in other circumstances. However, this provision does not relieve the state from providing the full 25% match unless the state requests and receives a waiver. Given the purpose of the Recovery Act to promote economic growth and the current economic crisis, OVW will consider any reasonable request for a waiver. A state can request a waiver with a letter explaining the economic hardship, how it impacts STOP Program purpose areas and subgrantees, and the amount of waiver requested.

Grants to State Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions

The Recovery Act provides \$8.75 million for *State Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions* to support the coordination of state victim services activities, including collaboration and coordination with federal, state, and local entities. State Sexual

Assault Coalitions and State Domestic Violence Coalitions will receive up to \$78,125 each, and dual Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Coalitions will receive up to \$156,250. Eligible applicants are HHS-designated State coalitions.

Discretionary Grant Programs

The Recovery Act provides \$43 million for the *Transitional Housing Assistance Program* to provide holistic, victim-centered transitional housing services and related support services that move individuals into permanent housing. *Eligible applicants include States, units of local government, Indian tribes, and other organizations with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.*

The Recovery Act provides \$20.8 million for the *Tribal Governments Grant Program* to enhance the ability of Tribes to respond to violent crimes against American Indian and Alaska Native women, enhance victim safety, and develop education and prevention strategies. *Eligible applicants include federally recognized Indian Tribes, their authorized designee, or a consortium consisting of two or more federally recognized Tribes.*

The Recovery Act provides \$2.8 million for the *Tribal Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions* to end violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. *Eligible applicants are established nonprofit, nongovernmental tribal coalitions addressing domestic violence and/or sexual assault against American Indian and Alaska Native women.*

Applications Process for All Programs

All applications for OVW's Recovery Act Programs will be submitted through the Grants Management System (GMS). Applicants must 1) obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS Number), 2) register with Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database and 3) register and apply through GMS.

Contact OVW

For more information about OVW Recovery Act programs, visit OVW's website frequently for updates (www.ovw.usdoj.gov/recovery.htm), email OVW.Recovery@usdoj.gov, or call (202) 307-6026.